REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	11 March 1998
Name of applicant/court:	Comptroller of Customs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Lesbian Love 29
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Color-Climax Corporation
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Magazine
Country of Origin:	Denmark
Language:	English, German, French, Spanish

Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature:	Running time:
Trailers:	Running time:
	Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

… Please turn over

Display Conditions:

That when the publication is on public display, the classification given to the publication must be shown on the publication; or any package in which the publication is kept
and
That the publication must be publicly displayed only in a sealed package
and
That where the publication is publicly displayed in a package, the package must be made of opaque material.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The magazine entitled *Lesbian Love 29* is classified as:
Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

This restriction is due to the explicitness of the magazine's depictions of sexual activity, and the magazine's degrading and dehumanising elements. The magazine consists of four photo stories containing explicit photographs of sexual activity between women. The magazine contains depictions of degrading and dehumanising sexual conduct, and degrades and dehumanises the women participants. Some of the photographs closely focus on the splayed genitals of the women, in some instances as they pose in an artificial manner to facilitate the close-ups. These photographs degrade the women by reducing them to their sexual characteristics and presenting them as sexual objects. However, the friendly tone of the photo stories in which the sexual activity is depicted mitigates the degrading and dehumanising elements.

Given the above matters, the Classification Office considers that the availability of the magazine would be likely to be injurious to the public good unless restricted to an adult audience.

The Classification Office has considered the applicability of the right to freedom of expression enshrined in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, the injury likely to be caused by the unrestricted availability of this magazine justifies the limitation of that freedom in this instance.

OFLC Ref: 9701095